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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In Chicago and New York prices were unchanged. Elsewhere, prices were lower on all sizes. The market tone was cautiously steady to barely steady. Demand was light to very good, best where holiday features were in progress. Supplies were ample to sufficient for trade requirements. Breaking stock supplies ranged adequate to ample for the light demand. Breaking schedules were reduced for the upcoming holiday. Light type hens were at least sufficient for less than normal processing schedules.

- **Effective January 2, 2003, prices delivered to retailers warehouse or store door in Boston (Brown), Philadelphia, Atlanta, Jackson, Major Louisiana Cities, Detroit, Major Ohio Cities and Major Wisconsin Cities will no longer be issued. Northeast, Midwest, Southeast and South Central regional prices will be issued instead and will be reported as "prices delivered to retailers warehouse and volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, cents per dozen." Prices and comments will appear on the report daily.**
- **Prices into Chicago, New York and Southern California delivered store door will continue to be reported.**

NORTH ATLANTIC Prices in Philadelphia were unchanged to 3 cents lower on the larger sizes and unchanged to 3.5 cents lower on mediums; however, prices in Boston were unchanged to 4 cents higher on the larger sizes and unchanged on mediums, when based on previous week average pricing. In New England, prices were unchanged. The market tone was barely steady to cautiously steady. Demand into all outlets ranged moderate to good. Supplies were fully adequate to available on white eggs, while browns were usually short. Breaking stock supplies were sufficient for the light demand. Light type hens were at least adequate for reduced holiday schedules.

MIDWEST Prices in Detroit and major Ohio and Wisconsin cities were 7 cents lower for the larger sizes and mediums. Other reported prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to barely steady. Retail demand was good to very good with fill-in from over the weekend exceeding expectations in most areas. Food service movement was mostly moderate to fairly good. Supplies ranged from tight to ample but were usually reported in good balance to fully adequate. Central States Breaking Stock prices were unchanged with checks and undergrades lower. Breakers had stepped away from outside spot loads of shell eggs with an occasional breaker bidding lower values for additional offerings. Off-line breaking schedules were reduced for this week. Floor stocks fully adequate to ample. Trade sentiment weak.

CHICAGO Prices for all sizes unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady to barely steady. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate, best where features are planned or in progress. Supplies adequate to available for all sizes.

SOUTHERN In Atlanta and Florida, prices were lower on all sizes. Trade sentiment was barely steady to steady. Demand was moderate to good, best where features were in progress or planned. Supplies were fully adequate to available for trade needs. The average price on Grade A or better white cartoned large eggs delivered to volume buyers in the Southern region for the week ending December 20, 2002 was 69.05 cents, which was 6.44 cents less than a week earlier, but was 8.07 cents more than last year. Breaking stock supplies were usually sufficient for the light demand. Breaking schedules were reduced for this week. Light type fowl were at least adequate for the fair demand. Processing schedules were less than normal due to the upcoming holiday.

WESTERN Prices 7-8 cents lower on jumbo, 7 cents lower on extra large, large, and medium. The Pacific region inventory was 15% lower than last Monday with California down 10% and Oregon-Washington-Utah down 22%. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings ample but transportation difficult to find.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged on all sizes. The market tone was unsettled, usually barely steady to steady entering the week. Demand ranged light to at times good. Supplies were fully adequate to available for current trade needs.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DLVRD STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DZ.

NOTE: Effective January 2, 2003, this report will no longer be issued due to a change in egg price reporting procedures.

NORTHEAST CITIES	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
Boston (Brown)	122-124	113-115	75-77
New York	74-78	72-76	53-57
Philadelphia	72-79	71-77	52-57.5

SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	64-74	62-70	44-51
Jackson (1)	75-77	73-75	56-58
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	72-82	70-80	51-62

MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	62-66	60-64	42-46
Detroit (2)	58-63	57-62	39-46
Major Ohio Cities (2)	60-64	59-62	41-44
Major Wisconsin Cities	61-68	60-65	42-46

WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	80-82	77-80	58-61
California (Grade AA)(1)(3)	99	94	77
(1) - Prices reported weekly		(2) - Delivered Warehouse	
(3) - Reported Invoice prices			

CALIFORNIA Prices 8 cents lower on jumbo, 7 cents lower on extra large, large, medium, and small. The California inventory was 10% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand seasonally good. Offerings ample but trucking was limited. Small benchmark price 57. Ads in Northern California: major- extra large dozen 2 for \$4, large dozen 2 for \$4, 18 pack buy 1 get 1 free, medium dozen buy 1 get 1 free; smaller outlets- large 18 pack 88-128, 2 for \$3.

California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	102
EXTRA LARGE	99
LARGE	94
MEDIUM	77

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	RANGE	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	RANGE
JUMBO	239-299	JUMBO	235-289
EXTRA LARGE	229-299	EXTRA LARGE	219-249
LARGE	199-219	LARGE	195-239
MEDIUM	179-199	MEDIUM	175-189

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending December 27, 2002 will increase by 1 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending December 20, 2002 were 306,122 cases which was 6 percent above the prior week and 9 percent below estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	268,171	37,951	306,122
% change from the prior week.....	+8	-6	+6

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 16 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Nest run breaking stock prices were unchanged with checks and undergrades lower. Breakers had stepped away from outside spot loads of shell eggs with an occasional breaker bidding lower values for additional offerings. Off-line breaking schedules were reduced for this week. Floor stocks fully adequate to ample. Trade sentiment weak.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	30-32	30
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	16-21	

CENTRAL STATES AREA: AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged to slightly higher when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly fair to moderate for the adequate but reduced offerings. Processing plants were less than normal due to holiday schedules. Finished product supplies were about adequate and clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was generally steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER

THE WEEK OF 23-DEC-02.	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	7-9.5	8-8.5	8.33

AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING TOO FEW TO REPORT
FOB PLANT TOO FEW TO REPORT

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading was TFEWR. Demand for spent hens was light. Most operations chose to curtail or cancel slaughter schedules for the Christmas week. Finished sales had cleared most inventories. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 23-DEC-02

	RANGE CENTS/LB.	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	PRICES	

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-AM DEC 23, 2002

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/

(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

			NO CENT	SO CENT	SO Atl	5-Area Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	6.7	18.9	6.3	12.7	13.8	58.4
	Change	-4.0	-1.2	-1.5	-2.6	2.6	-10%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	16.8	62.3	13.3	19.1	30.1	141.6
	Change	-10.1	0.5	-3.0	-5.6	-2.9	-13%
Large	Curr Wk	30.0	113.7	53.3	75.5	82.4	354.9
	Change	-19.2	-13.8	-37.7	-35.6	-26.2	-27%
Medium	Curr Wk	10.1	37.8	21.1	18.2	26.9	114.1
	Change	-5.0	-11.5	-2.9	0.1	-0.7	-15%
Small	Curr Wk	2.8	8.9	2.9	3.8	4.9	23.3
	Change	-0.2	0.9	-0.8	-1.5	0.9	-3%
Misc	Curr Wk	5.2	21.6	8.6	15.4	6.7	57.5
	Change	1.2	-1.2	-0.8	-4.0	1.0	-6%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	16.3	35.3	30.8	14.6	36.9	133.9
	Change	-12.0	3.2	-1.1	-14.0	-9.2	-20%
Total	Curr Wk	87.9	298.5	136.3	159.3	201.7	883.7
Percent	Change	-36%	-7%	-26%	-28%	-15%	-20%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
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Shell Egg 883.7 -20% 175

Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/ 273.5 -5% 38

Total Shell Egg 1,157.2 -17% 213

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 175 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggspacked for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

CANADIAN EGGS MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RE-TAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 09, 2002

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	194.2	191.1	182.1	114.6

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING DECEMBER 09, 2002 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	151	151	141	77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DECEMBER 20, 2002

CURRENT LOADS		12.25		FUTURE LOADS		7.00		TOTAL LOADS		19.25					
CLASS	SE		ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	SC		NW		SW		LOADS
	ORG	DST							ORG	DST	ORG	DST			
GNR W 1	—	—	44.50	46.00	—	—	1.00	GL W J	44.00	—	—	—	—	52.50	1.00
GL W XL	—	—	57.00	58.00	50.67	—	4.50	GL W XL	—	—	—	—	—	51.00	.50
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	36.36	—	3.75	GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	45.55	3.75
GL W MD	—	36.00	30.00	32.00	29.00	—	5.25	GL W MD	32.00	—	—	—	—	38.00	1.25
NRBS - 48	—	—	28.00	29.00	29.00	30.00	1.25	GL BR LG	109.00	—	—	119.00	—	—	1.00
NRBS - 39	—	—	14.50	16.00	—	—	.50								

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 12/16/02-12/20/02

CURRENT LOADS			99.25			FUTURE LOADS			48.75			TOTAL LOADS			148.00		
SE			NE			MW			SC			NW			MW		
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS		
GNR W 1	48.00	51.33	47.60	49.43	—	46.00	20.00	GNR W XL	38.00	42.00	—	—	—	—	1.00		
GNR W 3	—	40.00	—	—	—	36.00	2.00	GNR W 1	—	51.90	—	—	—	—	10.00		
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	95.00	—	108.00	2.00	GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00		
GL W J	—	—	—	76.00	44.25	—	3.00	GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00		
GL W XL	—	58.17	59.33	58.46	40.85	—	39.75	GL W J	45.60	—	—	—	—	54.69	3.25		
GL W LG	—	61.00	59.00	59.50	41.07	—	31.25	GL W XL	46.67	52.58	—	—	—	49.69	17.75		
GL W MD	—	44.67	30.50	32.89	31.19	28.00	22.50	GL W LG	47.00	53.88	—	—	—	49.64	28.25		
GL W SM	—	—	28.33	29.67	—	—	3.00	GL W MD	33.22	—	—	—	—	38.08	12.75		
NRBS - 48	—	—	28.00	29.00	30.16	33.24	39.25	GL W SM	—	28.00	—	—	—	—	1.00		
NRBS - 42	—	27.00	23.50	—	23.67	26.00	4.00	GL BR LG	109.00	—	—	119.00	—	—	1.00		
NRBS - 39	—	—	14.50	16.00	—	23.50	8.50	NRBS - 45	36.00	—	—	—	—	37.00	1.00		

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

NUMBER OF CASES OF EGGS SHIPPED TO CALIFORNIA

State	Number Cases	Number Cases	Number Cases	Total State
	Shipped To	Shipped To	Shipped To	
	Northern CA	Central CA	Southern CA	

NOT AVAILABLE

NEW ENGLAND

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
122-125	103-106	94-97	56-59	25-28

DETROIT EGGS

PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
64-74	58-61	55-60	39-43	31-35

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
39-43	21-25	11-15

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	12/16/02	12/09/02	12/17/01
PACIFIC COAST	124	658	240
LOS ANGELES	82	597	201

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS

Receipts from the mainland: 12/8/02-12/14/02
30-dozen case 7,282

Receipts from the mainland: 12/1/02-12/7/02
30-dozen case 8,721

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
87.54	85.54	66.85	53.27

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